

Abstract

This invention relates to opioid peptides, to pharmaceutical compositions containing the peptides, and to methods for controlling pain by administering the peptides or pharmaceutical compositions. The peptides have a high degree of selectivity for the μ -opioid receptor. Although they are highly lipophilic, the peptides do not readily cross the blood brain barrier (BBB). Because the peptides act peripherally, they substantially avoid the side effects associated with central analgesic action.